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# Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities

*Celebrating 30 Years of Leadership & Advocacy*



## MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities was held on Wednesday, December 21, 2005, at Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room 140, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles.

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Neal at 1:35 p.m. Introductions of Commissioners, Staff and audience members followed.

### APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 17, SEPTEMBER 21, AND NOVEMBER 16, 2005 MEETING MINUTES

This agenda item was postponed pending a quorum.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

**Linda Block** – Gave an overview on House Resolution 4241, which addresses potential changes to the Medi-cal and Medicaid programs which will affect the delivery of services to program participants.

**Donna Dougherty** – Spoke about an initiative to have the Griffith Park Observatory construct an accessible ramp at the front entrance to the site. The current accessible entrance to the building is located in a wing on the back side of the building.

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Neal reported the following:

- The Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza will be receiving a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors on January 17, 2006, in recognition of the recent installation of electronic doors to the mall's entrances.
- The Elhers Danlos organization now has a website, newsletter, health card, and identification bracelet which describe the conditions of the illness.

- The self-service gas station at Adams and La Brea in Los Angeles posts the times when gas can be pumped for disabled patrons.
- Commissioner Jensen is retiring after 34 years of service with the State Department of Rehabilitation and he will no longer be serving as the State's representative on the Commission.

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Access Awards Luncheon Wrap-up**

- 187 participants were in attendance at the Luncheon
- The Commission received \$11,800 in sponsorships

Chair Neal suggested that the Commission consider scheduling a regular Commission meeting in addition to the luncheon which is held in October. The addition of a regular meeting will allow the Commission to conduct Commission business or address any critical issues which may arise during that month.

## **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE REPORT**

The Commission received the report from the OAAC regarding the handicap elevator on Grand Avenue. The findings reported that the elevator is indeed ADA compliant and that the Building Manager for the Hall of Administration has been notified of the condition of the elevator, and he has assured the OAAC that the elevator will be cleaned and maintained regularly.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Krzyzanowski - Gave an overview on the accomplishments and community outreach efforts of the Public Relations Committee during 2005. He reported that the Committee group attended and represented the Commission as exhibitors at several community events and disability related conferences, and also distributed brochures and promoted the work of the Commission.

Commissioner Hamilton stated that he would like the Commission to tour ASI Headquarters and review the organization's operations.

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

### **Access Services Update**

- Teddy Remhild reported that Access Services has a new Chief Executive Director, Ms. Shelley Verrinder who is very knowledgeable and will be focusing on improving service delivery and technology.

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- ASI also has a federal lobbyist that will be going to Washington D.C. to meet with the Federal Transit Agency to discuss the paratransit system in Los Angeles County.
- Ms. Remhild also introduced Ms. Geetu Roy who has recently been assigned as the liaison to the Commission from ASI.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commission Krzyzanowski announced that he has been assigned as one of three ADA Coordinators for the County Department of Mental Health. He is also working closely with Supervisor Molina to have the vacant seats in the 1<sup>st</sup> District filled.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Comedian Richard Pryor at 1:17 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

#### Present

Janet Neal, Chair  
Harley Rubenstein, Vice Chair  
Michael G. Gureckas  
Ernest T. Hamilton, Jr.  
Richard Krzyzanowski  
John B. Troost

#### Board of Supervisors

Dedie Ward  
Audra Galang

#### County of Los Angeles

None

#### Excused Absent

Ruth Ann Acosta  
Viola Vivian Corbett  
Carlton L. Russell  
Kecia Weller  
Wendy Welt  
Sheila D. Wright

#### Guests

Donna Dougherty  
Liz Howell  
Carlton Lindo  
John Mavis  
Ray McKeever  
Jesse Padillo  
Geetu Roy  
Barbara Schoerin